

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

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FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2261

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, PA

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: MONTHLY DEVELOPMENTS IN PARAGUAY - MAR, 1974

1. LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES OF THE PARAGUAYAN NARCOTICS SQUAD (NNA) WERE HIGHLY PRODUCTIVE IN MARCH AS NNA AGENTS MADE A MAJOR HAUL OF ARGENTINE-MANUFACTURED AMPHETAMINES DESTINED FOR ILLEGAL SALE TO BRAZIL. IN A RAID ON TWO PHARMACIES NEAR THE BRAZILIAN BORDER, POLICE SEIZED 96,200 DOSAGE UNITS AND ARRESTED THREE PERSONS ON NARCOTICS CHARGES. IN OTHER ACTIVITY, ACTING ON INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE ASUNCION DEA DISTRICT OFFICE, NNA AGENTS ARRESTED JUAN MEDINA, WANTED FOR TRAFFICKING IN COCAINE BETWEEN BOLIVIA AND PARAGUAY. THE NNA ALSO DEVELOPED INFORMATION LEADING TO THE SEIZURE OF 18 KILOGRAMS OF MARIJUANA IN PEDRO JUAN CABALLERO AND OF 10 KILOGRAMS OF MARIJUANA SEEDS IN THE CITY OF LUQUE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF ASUNCION.

2. AT THE QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE JOINT GOP-US NARCOTICS PLANNING COMMITTEE, MINISTRY OF INTERIOR OFFICIALS NOTED THAT RECENT SUCCESSFUL RAIDS AGAINST AMPHETAMINE DEALERS WERE ONE OF THE RESULTS ACCRUING FROM A JOINT DEA-NNA WORK PLAN ESTABLISHED

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IN MARCH. IN ADDITION TO OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE, THE

MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY PARAGUAY'S RECENTLY APPOINTED SOLICITOR GENERAL, DR. CLOTILDO JIMENEZ, WHO REPORTED HE WAS UNDER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRESIDENT STROESSNER TO "EDUCATE" PUBLIC PROSECUTORS AND THE JUDICIARY REGARDING THE IMPORTANCE THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH ATTACHES TO CONVICTION OF NARCOTICS VIOLATORS. JIMINEZ ALSO ADDRESSED THE PROBLEM OF CONDUCTING INVESTIGATIONS AND ARRESTS IN A MANNER INSURING SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE FOR CONVICTION OF OFFENDERS. THE GOP REPS AGAIN RAISED THE GROWING PROBLEM OF ADDICTION-DRUG ABUSE IN PARAGUAY, ASKING WHETHER USG LOAN OR GRANT AID IS AVAILABLE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF REHABILITATION FACILITIES. THE EMBASSY REPS COUNTERED WITH AN OFFER TO EXPLORE WITH SAODAP THE POSSIBILITY OF A SPECIALIST'S VISIT TO REVIEW THE ABUSE AND TREATMENT SITUATION. THE EMBASSY CONTACT SAODAP AS SOON AS THE GOP PROVIDES STATISTICS ON THE EXTENT OF THE ADDICTION PROBLEM IN PARAGUAY.

3. THE 1973 USAID PROJECT AGREEMENT WITH THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR WAS EXTENDED IN ORDER TO COMPLETE ACQUISITION OF RADIO EQUIPMENT. TWO NNA CANDIDATES WERE DESIGNATED TO ATTEND THE SIX-WEEK DEA COURSE FOR NARCOTICS OFFICERS THIS MAY IN WASHINGTON, AND USAID FUNDING WAS PROVIDED FOR THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH TO ATTEND THE 1974 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON PROBLEMS OF DRUG DEPENDENCE, NAS-NRC IN MEXICO CITY.  
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## Message Attributes

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